



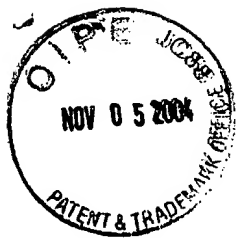
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence during pendency of filed application)</i>	Application Number	09/755,934	
	Filing Date	January 4, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Elliot Cooperstone	
	Group Art Unit Number	3629	
	Examiner Name	Jonathan P. Ouellette	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	16319-05986

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)	
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IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Elliot Cooperstone and H. Thach Pham  
SERIAL NO.: 09/755,934  
FILING DATE: January 4, 2001  
TITLE: Method and System for Remotely Managing Business and  
Employee Administration Functions  
EXAMINER: Jonathan P. Ouellette  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3629  
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 16319-05986

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

SIR:

The following is in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2004.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 between Group I, which includes Claims 1-8 and 43-50, and Group II, which includes Claims 9-42 and 51.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. In order for a restriction requirement to be proper, two criteria are required: (A) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and (B) there must be a serious burden on the examiner. MPEP 803.

In the present case, all claims relate to management of business and employee administration functions such as human resource and benefits packages. Applicants respectfully submit that because of the relationship of all claims to this central concept, the subject matter of the various claims herein can be searched and examined without undue burden.

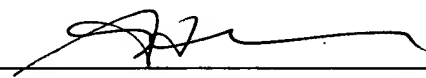
Applicants make no assertion herein as to whether or not the claims in Groups I and II are patentably distinct from one another.

Should the restriction requirement be maintained, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute in this patent application Group II, claims 9-42 and 51. Applicants request that claims 1-8 and 43-50 be retained in this patent application, unexamined, pending allowance of this patent application.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elliot Cooperstone and H. Thach Pham

Dated: November 1, 2004

By:   
Amir H. Raubvogel, Reg. No.: 37,070  
Fenwick & West LLP  
801 California Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
Tel.: (650) 335-7276  
Fax: (650) 938-5200